

PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

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(54) HEATING METHOD FOR FUEL CELL

(57)Abstract:

PURPOSE: To enable low-cost and rapid heating of a fuel cell by supplying a mixed gas of hydrogen and oxygen to at least one of an oxidizer electrode and a fuel electrode and making hydrogen react to oxygen in a catalyst layer of the electrode so as to generate heat.

CONSTITUTION: A mixed gas of hydrogen and oxygen is supplied to at least one of an oxidizer electrode and a fuel electrode, and hydrogen is made to react to oxygen in a catalyst layer of the electrode so that heat is generated to heat the fuel cell. Thereupon, most of the mixed gas containing hydrogen and oxygen reacts to produce water in the catalyst layer of the electrode, and all of its energy is converted into heat energy without being taken out as electricity, so that a large quantity of heat is generated to rapidly heat the fuel cell. Since an originally provided flow path for reaction gas can be utilized, a new sub machine is not required and further electricity is not consumed in quantity.

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